

# BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. 061-01-0446  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: Harvey M. Kaplan DATE: May 7, 1976

YOUR ADDRESS: 1322 Cherry Street TELEPHONE: 717-326-9894

ORGANIZATION (if any): Columbia University

DEC 0 1977

"D"

## IDENTIFICATION

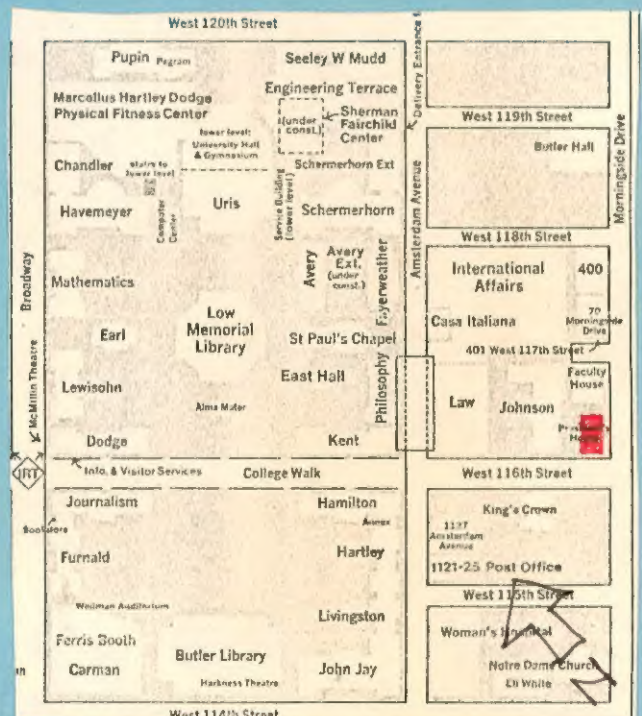
1. BUILDING NAME(S): Presidents House
2. COUNTY: New York TOWN/CITY: New York VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_
3. STREET LOCATION: Morningside Drive
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒
5. PRESENT OWNER: Columbia University ADDRESS: New York, New York 10027
6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐  
Interior accessible: Explain \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☐ b. stone ☒ c. brick ☒ d. board and batten ☐  
e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☐ g. stucco ☐ other: \_\_\_\_\_
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☐  
b. wood frame with light members ☐  
c. masonry load bearing walls ☐  
d. metal (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. other \_\_\_\_\_
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☒ b. good ☐ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):  
renovation 1948 included addition of elevator

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:





14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☒ b. zoning ☐ c. roads ☐  
d. developers ☐ e. deterioration ☐  
f. other: \_\_\_\_\_

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:  
a. barn ☐ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☐  
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☐ f. greenhouse ☐  
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐  
i. landscape features: \_\_\_\_\_  
j. other: \_\_\_\_\_

16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):  
a. open land ☐ b. woodland ☐  
c. scattered buildings ☐  
d. densely built-up ☒ e. commercial ☐  
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☐  
h. other: institutional

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:  
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

Buildingo overlooks Morningside Park and is adjacent to  
Columbia's Faculty Club and Johnson Hall

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):  
It is a 21 room house with a rooftop loggia. It is four  
stories in height and constructed of granite and limestone(base)  
and overburned brick above the first floor.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1912 construction completed

ARCHITECT: McKim, Mead and White

BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The President's House is built in an "Italian Renaissance"  
style to harmonise with the other classically inspired structures  
of Columbia's campus. Built for Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, it  
remained President Butler's residence until renovated for General  
Dwight David Eisenhower, also President of the university, in  
early 1948. It served as Eisenhower's headquarters for the 1952  
Presidential campaign(sucessful). Since then Presidents Kirk and  
McGill have occupied it.

21. SOURCES: file in Columbiana library at Columbia University  
New York Herald Tribune articles Oct. 7, 1947  
Aug. 21, 1952  
Mar. 6, 1953

22. THEME: instituional-  
residential